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FLOOR DEBATE

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I do that both summer and then, of course, if we do happen to have a Friday recess day. And as I do that and I go into those coffee shops at this time of year, all of my friends are gone. There's but a couple there. All the rest are in Florida or Arizona. And yes, just like Senator Brashear mentioned, several of these now have taken leave of their residency in Nebraska and now are Florida residents. They have a home here, they have family here, but they reside in Florida. And they do that for several reasons. One, there is no income tax in Florida. And two, they maintain a residence down there, and six months down there, but still everything else is up here. And so just as Senator Brashear testified to, it happens. And I can name at least a half a dozen of my friends, my peers, who take advantage of that. Now, there's been some discussion here on the floor, what are we going to do if we have to achieve more revenue in this state, and should we raise income tax, sales tax, property tax, whatever that is. And I do say that if we do raise income tax, you better look at the target on those that are going to be paying that. Because the poor do not pay income tax, and the rich, through tax planning, do not pay income tax either, or at least a very small amount. And you can do that by going to any tax planner, and he will advise you, you can buy tax-free bonds, you can do it with investments, you can move assets here and there. And so you don't pay income tax. And so yes, let's raise the income tax. Who's going to pay it? The guy who makes \$26,000 a year, up to maybe \$50,000 a year. That's the one who's really going to get hit. Many of those people are your employees right here today. And those will be the ones who will pay that major share, I will guarantee it. Now what are other states doing? I will tomorrow be in Arkansas, where we happen to have a small little place down there, have had for 20 years. And if you're 65 years old or older in Arkansas and own a piece of property, when you reach 65, the property taxes never increase. Now that's not a bad deal. And I think about many of my constituents, who call me and say, what are you doing down there? And it's either evaluation of their property keep going up and yet they're on a fixed income, what do they do? They either eat less, or they buy less meds, or whatever. And many of them are forced to say, I can't live here in Nebraska anymore, and they leave. And many of those go to Arkansas, and that's why Arkansas is such a growing state, and because so many